

REMARKS

Claims 4 and 6-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Figs. 31 and 32 are corrected; and claim 4 is amended. Support for the amended claim features may be found in the specification at least at paragraph [0066]. No new matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Nasri in the September 13 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

Forms PTO-1449 were filed in the above-captioned patent application on March 8, 2004 and May 24, 2004. Applicants have not yet received from the Examiner copies of the Forms PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the disclosed information. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned copies of the Forms PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, copies of the forms are attached.

II. The Drawings Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to Figs. 31 and 32 asserting that only that which is old is illustrated. This objection is respectfully traversed.

Figs. 31 and 32 show conceivable constructions for grounding a shielding shell of an optical connector (specification at paragraph [0003]). Applicants are not aware of any prior art references that disclose such an optical connector. The figures were furnished to show conceivable constructions that relate to the present invention. Accordingly, Figs. 31 and 32 are corrected with the labels "Related Art."

Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

III. The Claims Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action at page 4 objects to the amendment of claim 4 of June 9, 2004. In response, claim 4 is amended to satisfy all formal requirements. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 4 as amended satisfies all formal requirements.

IV. The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent 5,475,783 to Kurashima. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kurashima does not disclose "the case main body section is formed of a metal or a metallic alloy," as recited in claim 4.

Kurashima discloses that the entire package is formed by plastic molding (col. 4, lines 27-32). In contrast, the claimed case main body section is formed of a metal or a metallic alloy.

Furthermore, the spring piece of the claimed invention contributes to transfer of the heat developed in the element main body section, because, in embodiments, the spring piece and the case main body section are of a metallic composition. Because the spring piece and the case main body section can be made with a metallic composition, a heat conduction

velocity (heat flux) is dramatically increased. The claimed invention achieves this effect. As claimed, the case main body section of the present invention is formed of a metallic composition to enhance a heat conduction (transfer) effect and to release the heat from the element main body section.

Claim 4 is not anticipated by Kurashima. Claims 6-10 depend from claim 4, and thus, claims 6-10 also are not anticipated by Kurashima. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

V. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kurashima in view of U.S. Patent 5,444,804 to Yui et al. ("Yui"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Kurashima does not teach or suggest the invention of claim 4. Yui does not cure the deficiencies of Kurashima. Claim 4 recites "wherein the case main body section is formed of a metal or a metallic alloy." Kurashima in view of Yui would not have rendered obvious such a metallic case main body section.

As noted above, Kurashima discloses a plastic package (col. 4, lines 27-32). In contrast, the claimed case main body section is of a metallic composition.

Yui does not cure the deficiencies of Kurashima. Yui was applied for its disclosure of silicone gel, but Yui does not relate to the claimed metallic case main body section. For at least the foregoing reasons, Kurashima and Yui do not disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

Claim 4 would not have been rendered obvious by Kurashima in view of Yui. Claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 4, and thus, claims 9 and 10 also would not have been rendered obvious by Kurashima in view of Yui. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 4 and 6-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RJK/djb

Attachments:

Replacement Sheets
Forms PTO-1449 dated May 21, 2004 and March 8, 2004

Date: October 18, 2004

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Figs. 31 and 32 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 31 and 32.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet